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PATENT APPLICATION



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

ICHIRO MATSUYAMA

Application No.: 10/618,013

Filed: July 14, 2003

For: PRINTING APPARATUS

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October 3, 2003

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant respectfully directs the Examiner's attention to the documents listed below and on the enclosed Form PTO-1449. A copy of each document so listed is enclosed.

- (1) U.S. Patent No. 6,301,013
- (2) U.S. Patent No. 6,575,554
- (3) Japan 11-147345
- (4) Japan 2002-187261

Reference (4) is discussed in the specification at page 2, line 24, to page 3, line 13, and reference (3) is discussed in the specification at page 3, lines 14 to 26. These references might be deemed pertinent for the reasons given therein.

An English-language abstract for each of the above-listed Japanese documents has been located and is enclosed. In addition, reference (2) is believed to be an English-language counterpart to reference (4), and reference (1) is believed to be an English-language counterpart to reference (3).

Inasmuch as the subject application has not yet received a first Office Action, it is believed that this Information Disclosure Statement is timely. See 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(3). Accordingly, the Examiner is urged to study this information in its entirety and to form an independent determination of the materiality of the information to the claimed invention. Additionally, the Examiner is requested to indicate that this information has been considered by initialing the appropriate portion of Form PTO-1449.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, California office at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,



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